

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing a game update service in a gaming network, the method comprising:
  - publishing the availability of the game update service on the gaming network;
  - receiving a request to register with the game update service from a gaming machine ;
  - and
  - processing one or more service requests between the gaming machine and the game update service.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the game update service comprises a web service.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request for notification of a game content update by the gaming machine.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
  - receiving a game content change; and
  - issuing a notification of the game content update to the gaming machine in response to the game content change.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to download game content to the gaming machine.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the service request is initiated by the gaming machine.
7. The method of claim 5, wherein the service request is initiated by the game update service.

8. A method for updating game content on a gaming machine via a game update service in a gaming network, the method comprising:
  - issuing a request to discover a service description for the game update service;
  - receiving the service description;
  - registering with the game update service; and
  - processing one or more service requests between the gaming machine and the game update service.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the game update service comprises a web service.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the service description comprises a web services description language.
11. The method of claim 8, wherein the service request comprises a request for notification of a game content update.
12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
  - receiving a notification that game content has been updated.
  - issuing a request to download the game content.
13. A gaming network system providing a game update service, the gaming network system comprising:
  - a game update service communicably coupled to a gaming network;
  - a discovery agent communicably coupled to the gaming network; and
  - at least one gaming machine communicably coupled to the gaming network;wherein the game update service is operable to:
  - publish the availability of the game update service to the discovery agent;
  - receive registration requests from the at least one gaming machine; and

process service requests between the gaming machine and the game update service.

14. The gaming network system of claim 13, wherein the game update service comprises a web service.

15. The gaming network system of claim 13, wherein the service request comprises a request for game content update by the gaming machine.

16. The gaming network system of claim 13, wherein the game update service is further operable to:

receive a game content change; and

issue a notification of the game content update to the gaming machine in response to the game content change.

17. The gaming network system of claim 13, wherein the service request comprises a request to download game content to the gaming machine.

18. The gaming network system of claim 17, wherein the service request is initiated by the gaming machine.

19. The gaming network system of claim 17, wherein the service request is initiated by the game update service.

20. A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method for providing a game update service in a gaming network, the method comprising:

publishing the availability of the game update service on the gaming network;

receiving a request to register with the game update service from a gaming machine ;

and

processing one or more service requests between the gaming machine and the game update service.

21. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the game update service comprises a web service.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the service request comprises a request for notification of a game content update by the gaming machine.

23. The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the method further comprises:  
receiving a game content change; and  
issuing a notification of the game content update to the gaming machine in response to the game content change.

24. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the service request comprises a request to download game content to the gaming machine.

25. The computer-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the service request is initiated by the gaming machine.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the service request is initiated by the game update service.

27. A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method for updating game content on a gaming machine via a game update service in a gaming network, the method comprising:

issuing a request to discover a service description for the game update service;  
receiving the service description;

registering with the game update service; and  
processing one or more service requests between the gaming machine and the game update service.

28. The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the game update service comprises a web service.

29. The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the service description comprises a web services description language.

30. The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the service request comprises a request for notification of a game content update.

31. The computer-readable medium of claim 30, wherein the method further comprises:  
receiving a notification that game content has been updated.  
issuing a request to download the game content.